

505/156.

A  
D E F E N C E  
O F  
F. G I A R D I N I,  
FROM THE  
Calumnies, Falshoods, and Misrepresentations,  
O F  
C A C O P H R O N,  
In a PAMPHLET, published by him in the Name of  
G A B R I E L L E O N E.

To which is subjoined,

A Short Account of the Cause of CACOPHRON's Resent-  
ment against GIARDINI.



L O N D O N:

Printed for R. DAVIS, in PICCADILLY, 1765.

1505/156.

X



---

---

# DEDICATION.

T O

L-----T G----L R-----.

S I R,

I SHALL not, after the manner of some Modern Dedicators, ascribe to you Qualities which you do not possess: I shall not even compliment you upon your Benevolence, Prudence, Candour, and numberless other Virtues, which you certainly do possess, in the superlative Degree.

I shall not say how happy you were, while in the Army, in gaining the Favour and Esteem of your Superiors



periors, the Friendship of your Equals, and the Reverence and Love of your Inferiors; and, in short, in conciliating the Affections of all Men, with whom you had any Intercourse.

I shall forbear declaring to the World, what every one, who has the Honour of being acquainted with you well knows, namely, that you possess that excellent Point of Discipline, the knowing how to command, and how to obey, in as high a Degree, as if you had been educated in the City of Sparta; and that you have by the most consummate Prudence, and the sweetest Temper, always kept yourself free from Quarrels, even when you have been concerned with Persons the most captious and perverse.

But I cannot deny myself the Pleasure of taking Notice of your admirable Genius for the Polite Arts, particularly that of Music. Your exquisite Taste, in discerning the Beauties and Imperfections of Musical Compositions, enables you to judge of the Merits of Ancient and Modern Composers, with a true Spirit of Criticism. No Wonder then that you prefer the masterly and sublime Works of the former, to the flimsy Productions of the latter.

It must be owned that you have carried the Art of Criticism, much higher in Music, than Longinus did the same Art, in Oratory and Poetry; and the World  
can



can never sufficiently admire your most accurate Judgment, in distinguishing, by the Difference of Stile, the Compositions of different Masters, and the Works of the same Masters, composed at different Times, and under different Dispositions of Mind, with so great a Nicety and Exactness, as to be able to determine not only who was the Author of any Piece of Music, but the Year, Day, and even the Hour, on which it was composed, the Humour in which the Author was when he composed it, and whether he then drank Small Beer, Porter, Burgundy, or Champagne.

Permit me, SIR, to usher into the World, under your Patronage and Protection, the following Sheets, written in Defence of a Man, who is allowed by all, to be the finest Performer upon the finest and most difficult Instrument; and although his Compositions, in general, fall far short of the Perfection of the Works of the Ancients; yet he has once been so happy as to compose a Catch, so much in their masterly Stile and Manner, as not to be distinguishable from their Compositions, by the nicest Judgment.

An Attempt to defend such a Man, against Calumny, Slander, and the most malevolent Persecution, cannot fail meeting with a favourable Reception, from you who are so exquisite a Judge of Music, and so generous a Patron of Musicians: Especially as this Person has some-

B

times

times had the Honour to entertain you, with his Performance, at your own House, gratis: An Honour which, doubtless, he preferred to any pecuniary Advantages.

It would grieve a benevolent Mind, to see one who had contributed to his Happiness, his Pleasure, or even his Amusement, unhappy and in Distress. The Man in whose Defence I write has, as you well know, been most injuriously treated, most cruelly persecuted, and involved in great Distress; from which he is not yet free. His unhappy Situation cannot fail adding Weight to his Merit; and recommending him more powerfully to the Favour and Protection of you, and every one who has been delighted with his Performance, than any thing I can say.

But I must not conclude without acquainting you, that the recommending the following Papers to your Favour and Protection, is not my only View in this Address. You are perfectly well acquainted with the Case between Mr. Giardini and his Adversaries; and I appeal to you for the truth of what I have said in his Defence.

*I have the Honour to be,*

S I R,

*Your most Obedient Servant.*

R. P.



## A D E F E N C E, &c.

**M**R. Giardini, in the latter End of March last, having in part discovered Practices, which he conceived to be very unfair and very injurious to him, between Mr. Leone, whom he had employed to procure Singers and Dancers for the Opera last Season, and some of those whom Leone had procured, had Recourse to such Methods to obtain Redress, as his Lawyer advised.

This Proceeding was represented as cruel and oppressive; and great Pains were taken, by Misrepresentations and Calumny, to prejudice the Public against Mr. Giardini.

Hereupon one of Mr. Giardini's Friends inserted an Advertisement in the News-Papers, giving a short State of the Case; and calling upon Mr. Giardini's Adversaries to answer,

1st, Whether some of them did, or did not give Mr. Giardini's Agent a Receipt for Money, which they had not received, nor ever were to receive, with a View that the Agent might charge Mr. Giardini with those Sums?

2d, Whether others did, or did not give the same Agent Securities for great Sums of Money; and whether one of those Securities, in particular, was not for so large a Sum as Three hundred Sequins?

3d, Upon



3d, Upon what Consideration those Receipts and Securities were given; and how Mr. Giardini's Agent had deserved, or was to deserve of them such large Sums of Money?

4th, Whether their not having received the Sums of Money mentioned in those Receipts, and their having given those Securities was, or was not to be kept a Secret from Mr. Giardini? And whether an Oath of Secrecy was, or was not taken, by the Parties concerned in and privy to those Transactions?

By way of Answer to this, a long Pamphlet has been published in the Name of Signior Leone, not written by him, but by Caco-phron, who had once a considerable Employment, but being deprived thereof (I shall not enquire for what Cause) has since employed his very moderate Abilities, in managing petty Squabbles, for Fiddlers, Dancers, Singers, and whosoever else would entrust him therewith; and being no longer able to indulge his Appetite for wrangling in an higher Sphere, pursues it in a lower.

This Successor of the valiant Knight of La Manca is ready to maintain against all Gainfayers, (not by the Force of his Lance, which he is now unable to manage, but by his Pen, which he weilds with the same Spirit, and irresistible Force, that the afore-said valorous Knight did his Lance) that Signor Leone did Mr. Giardini a great Kindness, in agreeing that he should pay Signor Mazziotti fifteen hundred Sequins; and taking Mazziotti's Note, to pay him Leone, three hundred of the fifteen hundred; That the same Signor Mazziotti is the most spirited Actor, and most brilliant Singer, that ever trod the Stage; That Signora Sartori, Signora Bains, and Signor Guglietti are most consummate Musicians, and elegant Singers; That Signora Marcucci is the most graceful Dancer in Europe; That the same Signora Sartori has the finest Skin and most easy and genteel Shape in the World, in short that she is a finer Figure than the Venus of Medicis, That the Breath which exhales from her pretty little delicate Mouth, after a full Meal

Meal upon Maccaroni well seasoned with Normandy Cheefe, and stewed Garlick, is more fragrant than the new-blown Rose; and that Signora Tognioni's Glass Eye has more Lustre than a Diamond of the first Water.

However it must be observed, that our Author differs from the renowned Spaniard in two Respects; the latter being of a benevolent Disposition, and a Lover of Truth, in his Regard to which he never failed, except as to the Adventure of Montifino's Cave. Whereas two of the Characteristics of the former are Malevolence, to which all his other Passions are subservient, and a total Disregard of Truth.

I am now about to enter the Lists with this valorous Knight of Order of the Oaken Cudgel \*, for that is the Title of his Order. I shall pass by his Flirts, false Translations, Misrepresentations, and malicious Insinuations, without the least Foundation, with Contempt; and confine myself to such Charges as seem to have any Weight.

The first is That Giardini neglected to send Letters of Advice, by the Post, to Madame Grasse at Paris, and Signor Marchesio at Turin, of the Letters of Credit which he had given Signor Leone; for want of which Madame Grasse, as the Pamphlet expresses it, very cordially refused to advance Leone 300 French Livres, and

---

\* This Order of Knighthood takes its Name, from the Ceremony used in the Creation of the Knights, which is as follows. A Regiment is drawn up in the Field; and the Gentleman, who is to be knighted, comes up to the Front of the Regiment; and kneeling, presents an Oaken Cudgel to the Person who is to knight him, praying him to use it upon him, in such Manner as he deserves. The Person to whom the Cudgel is presented, takes it in his Hand; and, according to the Humour he is in, breaks the other's Head, or gives him a few smart Blows across the Shoulders: and he is thereby dubbed a Knight of the Oaken Cudgel.



Signor Marchesio followed her Example. This Charge it must be owned is true. Mr. Giardini was not aware that Leone's being the Bearer of Letters would lessen their Credit, or render them suspicious; especially as both Madame Graffe and Signor Marchesio knew Leone, who had resided some Years at Paris, much better than Giardini knew him. Yet it fell out, contrary to Giardini's Expectation, that neither Mrs. Graffe nor Signor Marchesio would trust Leone with Money, upon the Credit of a Letter, of which he himself was the Bearer, without having it confirmed by another Letter, by some other Hand, or by the Post. Happy had it been for Mr. Giardini, had he been as cautious as Madame Graffe and Signor Marchesio. Had he, before he employed Leone, considered well whether he was, in every Respect, a proper Person: or had he, as soon as he had Reason to be dissatisfied with Leone's Conduct, revoked the Power given to him; and employed a more proper Person to transact the Business with which he had too inconsiderately entrusted him. Such Conduct might have preserved Giardini from a very great Loss of Money, and infinite Distress and Anxiety of Mind. But this Caution of Madame Graffe and Signor Marchesio did not startle Giardini, being of an unsuspicious Temper. He heard of Leone's Disappointment with much Concern; and, with the utmost Dispatch, remitted to him such large Sums of Money, as he never before had the handling of; and, in all Probability, never will again. Leone, by a Letter dated the 19th of September, acknowledges that he had received Money abundantly sufficient to answer all Purposes; and by an Account, given in upon Oath, owns his having received of Mr. Giardini, by Remittances and otherwise, upwards of One Thousand Pounds.

Cacophonon confesses that Leone took a Note of Hand from Mazziotti, for three hundred Sequins; and that he took Receipts from Bainsi, and Guglietti, for more Money than he paid them; but makes no Answer to the Question concerning the Oath of Secrecy.



crefy. Wherefore the Reader will be able to answer that Question himself.

It is pretended that Leone did not intend to apply those Sums to his own Use, but to Giardini's. But if Leone intended those Sums for Giardini, why was not the Note taken in his Name? Why were those Transactions concealed from him?

But farther, Mazziotti and his Associates did not, for some time, pretend that those Sums were intended for Giardini's Use: On the contrary they owned those Sums were for Leone's Use; and said they had a Right to give their Money to whom they pleased. And when Application was made to Leone, to deliver up the Note for three hundred Sequins, he pretended he had left it with his Father at Naples.

Leone is represented, by the Pamphlet, to be perfectly easy as to the Event of the Suit, with respect to himself, but moved with a compassionate Concern for his Friends, to whom he had undesignedly occasioned so much Vexation, by engaging them for Giardini. But this we are to look upon as a Flourish of Cacophony's, who, without Doubt, thought it would appear heroical, for Signor Leone, like Cato, to shew a deep Concern for his Friends, while he was regardless of himself. For Leone, in two Letters written by him to Giardini, last April, shews very great Concern for himself, and none for his Friends, speaks of them with the utmost Contempt, confesses upon the Matter that Giardini had been very ill treated, lays the whole Blame thereof upon them, and offers to turn Evidence against them.

From the foregoing State of Facts, it is very evident that Giardini had sufficient Ground to seek Redress against Leone and his Associates. After Giardini had so done, and some farther Discoveries were made, he offered to submit the Matters in dispute between him and all the other Parties, except Leone, to Arbitration, or to adjust them in any other short and unexpensive Way. As to  
Signor

Signior Leone, Mr. Giardini thought him more faulty than any of the rest; and therefore was determined to endeavour to obtain Justice against him in a due Course of Law. Mazziotti and the rest for some time seemed also desirous to put an End to the Dispute, in a short and amicable way; and there is no Doubt but every thing would have been settled long since, had not a certain Gentleman dissuaded these People from an Accommodation, promised them his Protection and Assistance, and that he would oblige Giardini to pay them every Farthing of the Money mentioned in their Contracts. They were so weak as to listen to his Advice, refused Giardini's equitable Offer; and are now, as well as Giardini, involved in a Chancery Suit, the Expences of which may possibly exceed the Value of the Matters in dispute between them.

We are now come to that Part of the Pamphlet which concerns Berardi, and Rava-schiello, two Dancers. Cacophon says that Leone agreed with Berardi for two hundred Sequins, because Marcucci did not chuse to go to England without him, (certainly an excellent Reason) and that Berardi, according to his Declaration, which is annexed to the Pamphlet, arrived in London reduced to the utmost Poverty, which furnished Giardini with a fair Opportunity of inducing him to cancel his Contract, and make a new one at about half Price. Berardi, by the Declaration referred to, affirms that he waited near a Month at Paris, in vain Expectation of Money from Giardini, to enable him to pursue his Journey. That he got to London by the Assistance of Tognoni, towards the End of January; and that after his Arrival in London, Giardini extorted from him a fresh Contract, with a Deduction of about forty five Pounds.

In answer to this Charge concerning Berardi, it is to be observed, First, that Giardini expressly forbid Leone to agree with any Subjects for the Expences of their Journey. Secondly, that if Leone did, contrary to Giardini's Orders, agree with Berardi for the  
Expences



Expences of his Journey, he Leone ought to have supplied him with Money for that Purpose; for 'tis certain Leone had Money of Giardini's in his Hands, more than sufficient for the Purpose. Thirdly, Leone either did supply Berardi with Money, to defray the Expences of his Journey, or Leone has given in a false Account upon Oath, as will presently appear. Now supposing Leone had, fairly and without Deceit or Collusion, contracted with Berardi, yet if Berardi loitered at Paris, till the Opera Season was almost half over, (which was really the Case, for his Contract bears Date the 20th of February) Giardini certainly did right in making an Abatement in his Salary; and would not have done wrong had he refused to employ him at all.

The Substance of the Charge concerning Signor Ravaſchiello, as ſet forth in the Pamphlet, is that Leone engaged him at Naples; that he remained at Paris, for want of Money to bring him over; that Leone often repreſented his Situation to Giardini, and he as often promiſed to remit Money for his Journey; but he left him at Paris, to pine in Miſery during the Season: and at laſt, on Leone's repreſenting to him ſtrongly the Inhumanity of ſuch Treatment, he fairly owned he wanted to ſave the Expence of a Dancer.

But Signor Ravaſchiello, in his Letter to Leone, annexed to the Pamphlet, and referred to thereby, gives a very different Account of this Affair. He charges Leone, with having gotten all his Money from him, (of which he mentions the particular Species;) deſcribes the Miſery in which Leone had involved him, in a moſt lively and affecting Manner, and beſeeches him to relieve him from that Miſery, and enable him to redeem his Things, and return to his own Country, ſince he could not have the Pleaſure and Honour (as he expreſſes it) of dancing in London, according to his Contract. But makes not the leaſt Complaint of Giardini.

Leone, in an Account given in upon Oath, pretends that he not only paid the Expences of Ravaſchiello's Journey from Naples to

D

Lyons,



Lyons, but that he also paid fifty Sequins to the same Ravaſchiello, in part of his Salary, and ſupplied him with Thirty Louis d'ors at Lyons, to defray the Expences of his and Berardi's Journey to London.

If Leone did not pay to Ravaſchiello thoſe Sums of fifty Sequins, and thirty Louis d'ors, he has given in a falſe Account, and that upon Oath. If the Account be true, Ravaſchiello's Letter is untrue. Unleſs we ſuppoſe that Leone did advance thoſe Sums to Ravaſchiello, and afterwards prevailed upon him to return them. Upon that Suppoſition, Leone acted a moſt unhandſome Part by Giardini, and a moſt unhandſome and cruel Part by poor Ravaſchiello. He deprived Giardini of a Dancer who had coſt him fifty Sequins, equal to twenty-three Pounds fifteen Shillings, charged by Leone, as paid in part of his Salary, fifty-nine Pounds two Shillings, charged by Leone for the Expences of his Journey to Lyons, and thirty Louis d'ors, equal to thirty-one Pounds ten Shillings, charged to be paid him at Lyons, in all One hundred and fourteen Pounds ſeven Shillings; and deprived Ravaſchiello of the means of coming to England, or returning to his own Country. He brought the poor Man into a ſtrange Country, and left him there, without Money and without Friends. Take the Matter which way you will, either according to Ravaſchiello's Letter or Leone's Account, Cacophron's Charge againſt Giardini is altogether groundleſs. But if Ravaſchiello's Letter be true, what are we to think of Leone? and yet Cacophron will maintain that every Syllable of Ravaſchiello's Letter is true; and that Leone is notwithstanding the beſt Agent that ever was employed to procure Subjects for an Opera.

But now let me aſk the Author of the Pamphlet, whether he has not ſeen the forementioned Account, wherein Leone has charged Giardini with the forementioned Sums of fifty Sequins, and

and thirty Louis d'ors, as advanced to Ravaschiello? Whether he did not even assist Leone in drawing it up?

One would not expect to find the Morals of a Mezoranian, or of a Citizen of Plato's Republic, in such a Fellow as ———. But that a Man of Family and Station, a Man who once had a considerable Employment, should be so void of Candour and Sincerity, should be so regardless of Truth, Conscience, Honour, and Decency, as to publish a Charge, which he knew to be absolutely false and groundless, with respect to the Man against whom he published it, and which he knew to be contradicted by an Account drawn up and prepared by himself, and given in upon the Oath of the Person, in whose Name the Charge is published, is enough to make one shudder.

Cacophron, as if he thought his Pamphlet not tedious enough, has added to it a very silly Paper concerning Signor Graziani, (which has no Relation to the Subject of the Pamphlet) with a Declaration at the Foot of it, (to which Graziani's Name is subjoined) that the Contents thereof are true, and that Graziani consents it should be printed.

But Graziani has made the following Declaration, before several Persons of Credit, who are ready to attest the same: viz. That being given to understand that G-----l R--- would advance him Money, upon an Assignment of his Debt, due from Giardini, he waited upon him and gave him the State of the Case contained in that Paper. That G-----l R--- asked him if the Account of what he there claimed to be due to him was true; That he answered, it was true: That G-----l R--- thereupon desired him to sign it, and he signed it accordingly. Graziani added that G-----l R--- then declared that he must shew the Paper to his Attorney, before he could advance Money upon it; that he was amused by G-----l R--- for some time with the Hopes that he would advance him Money; That he was disappointed in those Hopes; and that the

Paper



Paper was printed without his Consent. Who caused it to be printed, or what Hands it pass through before it was printed, he did not say.

Now suppose G-----I R--- should deny all that Signor Graziani has affirmed, which of the two are we to believe? I must own myself strongly disposed to stand neuter! 'Tis disagreeable interfering in Disputes, especially in Disputes between Friends. I should be unwilling to make a Compliment to the Credit of either of those Gentlemen, at the Expence of that of the other of them; and therefore leave the Matter to be adjusted by themselves.

As Graziani seems to be ashamed of this Paper, by disavowing the Publication of it, I shall only observe that there is not a Word of Truth in it concerning Giardini, except that he hired Graziani to perform at the Opera for a Guinea a Night, that he recommended him to the Noble Lord and Gentleman named therein, that Giardini owes him a little Money (but not so much as he pretends) and that he wishes Giardini would pay him. I will add that Giardini also wishes to pay Signor Graziani what is really due to him, as well as all the rest of his Creditors, and is using his best Endeavours to accomplish it.

Mr. Giardini having suffered a great Loss by the ill Success of the Opera; and being, in consequence of that Loss, unable to pay his Debts immediately, procured a Meeting of his Creditors. At this Meeting they were informed, that Mr. Giardini had engaged an excellent Company of Performers, for the Opera, for the then ensuing Season, by which he hoped to gain as much as he had lost the preceeding Season; and an Instrument was produced, executed by Giardini, by which he had assigned all the Profits which should arise by the Opera, for the Benefit of his Creditors. He also assigned whatever he should earn by teaching or otherwise, for the same Purpose, for which Earnings he undertook to account monthly, till his Creditors were paid the whole of their Demands;



Demands ; and submitted it to his Creditors, to allow him what they should think barely necessary for his Support. In consideration of this, the Creditors were requested to execute a Letter of Licence, exempting him from Suits on account of their Debts, for two Years : But if he failed in accounting monthly, the Letter of Licence was to be void, and his Creditors at Liberty to arrest him.

Mr. Giardini's Creditors could not be ignorant that he had no Means of paying them, but those which he proposed ; and it seems hardly credible that they should refuse so fair an Offer ; that they should be so cruel with regard to their Debtor, and so imprudent with respect to themselves, as to chuse to shut their Debtor up in Jail, rather than avail themselves of his Talent, for the Payment of their Debts.

A certain Gentleman, having for twenty-one Pounds gotten an Assignment from one Berardi of nineteen Pounds ten Shillings, which he claimed as due to himself, and of fifty Pounds which he claimed as due to his Wife, from Mr. Giardini, appeared at the Meeting of his Creditors ; and being there early, applied himself to each Creditor singly, as they came into the Room, with great Dexterity and Address, and entered into private Conversation with them. At length when the foregoing Proposition was made, and the above-mentioned Instrument produced, that Gentleman used his utmost Endeavours, to dissuade the Creditors from agreeing to what was proposed ; assured them he had most certain Information that Signor Manzoli would not come ; That if they signed the Letter of Licence, they never would be paid a Farthing ; but if they refused to sign, he assured them that they would receive the whole of their Demands in a very short Time. These Assertions, though very confidently made, added to the private Arguments used to the several Creditors, separately, had little Weight. All the Creditors present, except Mrs. Sartori who came, Arm in Arm, with the same Gentleman, to the Meeting, were willing to sign the Let-

ter of Licence. But there were several Creditors who were not present at the Meeting, and who, being prejudiced against the Proposition, before they knew what it was, refused to sign.

Mr. Giardini remained in a State of great Anxiety, during the whole Summer and Autumn, confined to the House, and as much a Prisoner, as if he had been in the Fleet. Some of his Friends in the mean time used their best Endeavours to convince his Creditors, who stood out, that they were thereby hurting themselves, and the rest of the Creditors, as Giardini had no means of paying them, but the exercising of his Profession; and he declared himself willing to become an indented Servant to them, till the whole of their Demands were paid.

These Endeavours however had but little Success, as they were always counteracted; and Giardini could not stir out of Doors, without subjecting himself to a more disagreeable Imprisonment, than that which he was then under, notwithstanding his Offer to become an indented Servant to his Creditors, till the whole of their Demands was paid.

It is impossible to describe Cacophron's various Attempts and unwearied Endeavours to oppress and ruin this poor Man, at the Time when he was imploring the Forbearance of his Creditors, and beseeching them to permit him to make use of the only means in his Power, for Payment of what was due to them.

Cacophron, by himself and his Emiffaries, instigated every Creditor of this distressed Man, to bring Actions against him, laid every Snare he could devise to entrap him, and get him arrested. He not only encouraged the Bailiffs, by offering them large Rewards, but also assisted their Followers, in Person, to watch and set him.

He had declared that he would either drive Giardini out of England, or get him into a Jail; and no doubt would have been as good as his Word, had not some noble and generous Friends of Giardini's



Giardini's advanced him Money, to pay his Creditors Part of their Demands, whereby they were prevailed upon to give him Time for Payment of the Residue.

The Reader will doubtless imagine, that nothing but the most grievous Injury could provoke Cacophon, to persecute with so much Rancour and Malevolence a poor Man, already involved in greater Distress, than any Person of Generosity or Humanity would with his most mortal Enemy. It is indeed almost incredible that, for the Sake of gratifying his Resentment, a Gentleman should stoop so low as to act the Part of a Wapping Attorney; should cajole ever dirty Fellow, who was, or pretended to be a Creditor of the Object of his Resentment, and incite them to bring Actions against him; should associate with Bailiffs and Bum-bailiffs, their Followers and Setters; should even take upon himself the Office of a Bailiff's Follower, a Bailiff's Bum, a Bailiff's Setter! 'Tis, I say, almost incredible that any Gentleman should stoop to a Conduct so mean, so low, so dirty; unless we suppose him hurried away by the most violent Anger, excited by the most insupportable Injury.

I will conceal nothing from the Reader; but, to gratify his Curiosity, will trace the Spring, from whence that Torrent issued, which has bore down before it all Sense of Justice, Humanity, Honour, Decency, and every other thing becoming a Gentleman; and levelled a Man of Family with the very Dregs of the People.

But that the Reader may not be disappointed, he must take this Observation with him,

That very violent Effects are sometimes produced by Causes, in Appearance trifling. The smallest Spark of Fire, by falling into a Barrel of Gunpowder, causes a terrible Explosion; and destroys  
every

every thing near it: Whereas the same Spark, by falling into a Tub of Meal, would do no Manner of Hurt.

Giardini after drinking a Pot of Porter, of which he is very fond, was seized with a violent *Estro Armonico*; and in that Transport composed an English Catch. This being produced, without naming the Author, and sung in a Company where Cacophron was present, He commended it; and, from several internal Marks, in the Harmony, Stile and Contrivance, pronounced it to be a famous Catch, composed by Maister Orlando Gibbons, (Chapel Master to King Charles the First) after he had drank a Cup of Sack extraordinary, to the King's Health, on his Birth Day \*. This drew the Laugh upon Cacophron.

Now Cacophron is of so strange a Cast of Mind, that to see others merry is sufficient to put him out of Humour; but to see them merry at his Expence, cuts him to the Heart.

From the Time of this supposed Mistake, Cacophron's Mind has ever been upon the Rack. I call it a supposed Mistake, because Cacophron judged right in the main. For the Spirit which once informed and animated the Body of Maister Orlando Gibbons, after transmigrating into the Body of Alessandro Stradella, and some other Transmigrations, which I could particularly trace, if necessary, now animates the Body of Felice Giardini. And although Giardini is of a much more volatile Temper than Orlando Gibbons was, that is owing to the Difference of their Bodies, one being born in the clear Air, and fed upon the light Diet of Italy,

---

\* Some say that Cacophron did not ascribe the Catch to Orlando Gibbons in particular, under the particular Circumstances above related; but generally, to Orlando Gibbons, or some other Composer contemporary with him.



and the other born in the gross Air, and fed upon the gross Diet of England.

But supposing Orlando Gibbons's earthly Machine to be raised above its ordinary Standard, by a Cup of Canary, and Giardini's to be depressed by the Weight of Roast Beef and Porter; the two Machines being brought to the same Standard, the Operations of the same Soul upon them would become exactly similar; and the Piece of Music composed by Giardini, under the Influence of Porter, was exactly such an one, as Gibbons would have composed, when elevated with a Cup of Sack.

Wherefore, O Cacophron! be comforted; thy critical Skill will not be the worse thought of, for the Judgment thou hast made: And if it should, there is no Remedy for the Evil but Patience. Wert thou and Giardini in Italy or Portugal, thou mightest purchase a Balm for thy Wound, for five Ducats. But alas! there are no Bravos in England. Lay aside then all Thoughts of Revenge; for why shouldst thou consume thy Flesh, with vain Wishes for what is out of thy Reach? Why should thy Food become tasteless to thee, and Sleep forsake thine Eyes, through incessant Longings after what thou never shalt obtain? Chase away those gloomy Thoughts, which now overwhelm thee; go to the Catch Club, cheer thine Heart with a merry Catch; Laugh, if thou canst, drink and forget thy Grief.

F I N I S.

[illegible]